

**Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development**  
**Meeting of January 20, 2016, 7pm**  
**Office of Bowes Real Estate, 1010 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington**  
**Meeting Minutes**

ATED members in attendance

Angela Olszewski, Bob Bowes, Bob Radochia, Ted Peluso, Kirsi Allison-Ampe, Tom Davison, Billy Lyons

Guests

Barbara Goodman, Adria Arch, Pat Guthrie, Jim McLean, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

Acceptance of Minutes

Motion by Kirsi, second by Ted

Unanimous vote to accept the minutes of November

Treasurer's Report/Reimbursements

There was no treasurer's report

Update on Town Economic Development Activities

Ted Fields was not able to attend the meeting, so there was no update

Project Updates

- Visitor Center
  - Ted prepared a report recapping the activity for the season
- Battle Road Scenic Byway
  - Angela will contact Clarissa for an update
- Patriots Day Weekend
  - Jim McLean provided an update on the plans for the reenactment
  - There was a discussion about the schedule of other planned activities, including ATED's possible parade participation

Town Meeting: Budget/Warrant Articles

ATED discussed a budget request under the group committee article to include:

- \$1775 as our usual committee budget request
- \$7500 for a central, town-owned visitor website (includes design and one year of maintenance)
- \$2500 for a volunteer coordinator and marketing support for the visitor center

Pros and cons of the website and visitor center support proposals included:

- No funds are requested for the Byway this year; we had been requesting \$5000 for the last two years
- Total is a very small percentage of the more than \$700,000 hotel and meals tax revenue
- The school budget is very important this year due to rising enrollment and renovation projects, so this might not be the year to request funds for these projects
- Most people get information online, so a website is very important to our efforts. We need a centralized location. Volunteer websites have failed; we need a dedicated person to maintain it.
- We are unable to find another group to take over the visitor center and we need help staffing it

After the discussion, the three items were voted on separately:

- \$1775 for the committee budget: motion by Kirsí, second by Bob Bowes; motion to approve pass unanimously
- \$7500 for the website: motion by Bob Bowes, second by Tom; ATED members voting in the affirmative: Billy, Bob Bowes, Angela, Tom; in the negative: Bob Radochia, Kirsí; abstain: Ted; motion passed
- \$2500 for the visitor center: motion by Bob Bowes, second by Kirsí; Ted abstained; the remaining members voted in the affirmative; motion passed

Committee Member Composition

Discussion on this topic was tabled

Old Business

Bob Bowes urged support of the Patriots Day Parade

Tom discussed dates for the Block Party and Feast of the East

Adjournment

Motion by Bob Radochia, second by Tom

Unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm